

TOP SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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7 SEP 1966

The Honorable U. Alexis Johnson
Deputy Under Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Alex:

The final report on "Political and Security Aspects of Non-Military Applications of Satellite Earth-Sensing" by the NSAM 156 Committee transmitted by your memorandum of 11 July 1966 recommended in paragraph 18(6) that the United States Intelligence Board be asked to review:

a. The question of removing reference to the fact that the US has an operational satellite reconnaissance program from codeword control, retaining either a SECRET or TOP SECRET classification.

b. Selective removal of appropriate photography from codeword control for classified use by NASA and other cleared personnel, or alternatively clearing an increased number of NASA personnel for such use under present codeword control.

Review of these questions by the Board has resulted in approval of the following recommendations:

a. To meet the recommendation in paragraph 18(6)(a), the Department of State and NASA select an increased number of key personnel for clearance in the TALENT-KEYHOLE system to see if the risk of uninformed discussion can be controlled by this means.

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NASA REVIEW COMPLETED

DOS and NASA review(s)
completed.

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b. Review of the situation at the end of six months to determine whether the problem has been solved or whether there should be a briefing of additional persons at the TOP SECRET or SECRET level.

c. To meet the recommendation in paragraph 13(b)(b), NASA be invited to select a panel representing those scientific and technical disciplines of interest to NASA to be cleared for access to TALENT-KEYHOLE information in order that they may study current TALENT-KEYHOLE materials at NFIC and exploitation procedures used by NFIC, the Mapping, Charting, and Geodesy community, etc., and make recommendations to NASA concerning the desirability of increased NASA participation in the TALENT-KEYHOLE program.

Representatives of NASA have been advised of the above recommendations as approved by USIB, and have initiated preliminary actions responsive thereto.

Cordially,

/s/ Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Director

cc: Dr. Seamans, NASA

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